



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

February 20, 2022
Worship at 10:30 AM
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

PRELUDE

Prelude on ELLACOMBE

Bill Ingram (b. 1940)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Leach

OPENING VOLUNTARY

It is the tradition of this congregation to remain silent as we collectively prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Radiance

Jason W. Krug (b. 1978)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTROIT

I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus

Barlow Bradford (b. 1961)

I'm trying to be like Jesus; I'm following in his ways.
I'm trying to love as he did, in all that I do and say.
At times I am tempted to make a wrong choice,
But I try to listen as the still small voice whispers...

I'm trying to love my neighbor; I'm learning to serve my friends;
I watch for the day of gladness when Jesus will come again.
I try to remember the lessons he taught.
Then the Holy Spirit enters into my thoughts, saying...

*"Love one another as Jesus loves you.
Try to show kindness in all that you do.
Be gentle and loving in deed and in thought,
For these are the things Jesus taught."*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The people stand for the Call to Worship and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

Take delight in the Lord, who satisfies the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord and trust in God's actions.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for God.

The Lord is our salvation and our refuge in times of trouble.

HYMN

Your Ways Are Not Our Own

FESTAL SONG

This hymn may be found on the inserted page.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior.

The people keep silence.



KYRIE

Westminster Buffalo Service, Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

The people sing.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE

The people stand to sing.

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and to the Son,
 and to the Ho - - ly Spi - rit; As it was in the be - gin - ning,
 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - - - - - men.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

John Goss (1800-1880)

¹Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong. ²For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away. ³Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and feed on its riches. ⁴Take delight in the Lord, and he shall give you your heart's desire. ⁵Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, and he will bring it to pass. ⁶He will make your righteousness as clear as the light and your just dealing as the noonday. ⁷Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. ⁸Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes. ⁹Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil. ¹⁰For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land. ¹¹In a little while the wicked shall be no more; you shall search out their place, but they will not be there. ³⁹Mark those who are honest; observe the upright; for there is a future for the peaceable. ⁴⁰Transgressors shall be destroyed, one and all; the future of the wicked is cut off.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand to sing.



GOSPEL LESSON

The people remain standing.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 6:27-38

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people remain standing.



SERMON

Love Isn't Easy

HYMN

The people stand to sing. This hymn may be found on the inserted page.

They Asked, “Who’s My Neighbor?”

NEIGHBOR

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING



OFFERTORY

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this,
That a man lay down his life for his friends.
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,
That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
That ye should show forth the praises of him
Who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies,
A living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto to God, which is your reasonable service.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OLD HUNDREDTH

The people stand as the Deacons move forward; remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove ye heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Hennessy

Holy God, you have given us land in which to grow and thrive, food for survival and pleasure, air and water, fire and cold. Make our thanksgiving bloom forth into the lives of others in the name of the one who gave everything for us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The people stand to sing. This hymn may be found on the inserted page.

For the Healing of the Nations

CVM RHONDDA

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931)

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his countenance upon you; and give you peace.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune

Nicholas Bowden (b. 1964)



WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach, Senior Pastor
Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
The Westminster Choir
The Westminster Handbell Choir
Dr. Walter S. Mayo, Handbell Choir Director

DEACONS SERVING TODAY

John Bace, Bruce Dierenfield, Linda Fabian, Mark Hall,
John Mahoney, Joan Rice Shosho, Ethel Ward

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given by Val Cooley in loving memory of the Cooley, Comstock, Buck, Pinto, and Westcott families.

To purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, please contact Sue Adams, hugwalker1@gmail.com or 716.883.7597.

Welcome to Westminster!

Westminster is a Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation and a progressive place of lifelong learning. Everyone is welcome to our campus to worship, rejoice in music, question, reflect, serve, and grow, regardless of age, race, socioeconomic status, sexuality, gender identity, citizenship status, or religious affiliation.

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member, or visit our website, wpcbuffalo.org.

As a More Light church, we invite all members of the LGBTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries. As an Earth Care Congregation, we defend and heal creation through worship and education.

Wiggle Worship Bags for youth are available at the doors. Please return after worship.

If you need assistance at any time, please ask a Deacon or staff member.

Preaching Schedule

Worship with Communion at 8:15 AM in the Holmes Chapel (in-person)

Worship at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary (in-person and livestreamed)

February 27, 2022

Last Sunday after the Epiphany: Transfiguration

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach

Luke 9:28-36

Clarity Within the Clouds

March 2, 2022 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach

March 6, 2022

First Sunday in Lent

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach

Upcoming Events

Children's Sunday School

Out of an abundance of caution, in-person children's programming is suspended. Watch the eNews for an announcement when it is safe to resume. Please take a Wiggle Bag on your way into worship. We pray with and for our families as they continue to make difficult decisions.

"Love is Love" Jeopardy

February 20, 2 PM via Zoom

Alanna Paris leads another fun and informative virtual Jeopardy game; invite a friend! Zoom link may be found in the weekly eNews.

Journey's End Presentation

February 27, following 10:30 AM Worship

Representatives from Journey's End will discuss ways Westminster can support Afghan refugee families.

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 7 PM in the Sanctuary and Livestreamed

Mark the beginning of Lent with the imposition of ashes and the Sacrament of Communion.

WOW Book Club

April 4, 7 PM via Zoom

WOW Book Group's next book will be *The Secret Lives of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. For the Zoom link, email Carol Greetham, carolgreetham@gmail.com.

Palm Sunday Coat Drive

April 10, 10:30 AM in worship

Please bring new or gently used coats and winter wear to drape over the pews to represent the cloaks laid before Jesus as he entered the Holy City. Following worship, these will be donated to a local shelter.

Generosity

Thank you to those who submitted completed Pledge Cards. We are grateful for your generosity, as we are 75% of the way toward the \$700,000 goal! **Pledges may be submitted by returning the pledge card or by visiting our secure website, wpcbuffalo.org/atn. Thank you for your generosity!**

"Mission, mission, mission! Possibly adopt a refugee family or partner with another church to do so."

For more information on making a gift to Westminster, please contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org or 716.884.9437 x315.

Understanding Islam

Sponsored by Westminster and the Muslim Public Affairs Council, Understanding Islam returns for its nineteenth year this February, Sundays at 8:45 AM via Zoom. Visit wpcbuffalo.org/islam to learn more and to access the Zoom link.

February 27 - Perspectives of Afghan Evacuees

A panel discussion with representatives from resettlement agencies and Afghan immigrants

Following worship on February 27, representatives from Journey's End will discuss ways Westminster can support Afghan refugee families.

COVID-19 Policy

Westminster's Session has convened a task force, led by Rev. Leach, to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and Westminster's response:

N95 or KN95 masks worn properly (covering the mouth and nose) are a requirement at all times on campus; masks will be provided to those who need one. Westminster requires masks out of respect for each other, and to protect children and other vulnerable populations who are present at the service or in our homes or workplaces.

Throughout the week and on Sundays, staff, members, and guests are required to wear masks in public areas within the building. Staff members working in their private offices may remove their masks. Communion will be served via prepackaged elements.

COVID-19 Task Force: Steve Edge, Ray Herman, Lucinda Hohn, Todd Leach, Garrett Martin, Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Joan Rice Shosho, and Mimi Steadman

This Week

Sunday, February 20

8:15 AM Worship
8:45 AM Understanding Islam
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
2:00 PM Love is Love Jeopardy

Monday, February 21

President's Day
WECP/WPC Closed

Tuesday, February 22

5:30 PM Budget & Finance

Wednesday, February 23

7:15 AM AA Meeting
9:30 AM Worship Planning
1:00 PM Staff Meeting
6:00 PM Session Meeting
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, February 24

6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 27

8:15 AM Worship
8:45 AM Understanding Islam
9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Journey's End Pres.
1:00 PM Confirmation Class



WESTMINSTER

CHURCH • EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

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